

Washington, DC - Congressman Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) released the following statement after the Senate passed a critical procedural obstacle to move forward with the extension of unemployment benefits. Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins were the only Republicans to vote for cloture, allowing the Senate to vote for final passage of the benefits.

"The Senate's vote this afternoon was a long overdue step to provide relief for America's struggling families," Braley said. "The House has been trying to act on this for months and I'm glad we will finally see progress on this critical issue. Once again, Senate Republicans put political maneuvering ahead of America's families waiting for help in their most desperate hour. This legislation can now move toward final passage and millions of Americans will receive the help they need to put food on the table."

Today, Braley spoke on the House floor about the impact of Senate inaction on Iowa's families, including one desperate family featured in today's edition of the Dubuque Telegraph Herald.

Video of his floor speech is available [here](#).